

Message Text

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PASS AGRICULTURE FAS - SAYLOR/REISZ

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, CA
SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT: CANADIAN BROILER-CHICKEN AGENCY

1. AGATT INFORMED BY RELIABLE SOURCE THAT FOLLOWING
INTERNAL GOC UNDERSTANDINGS AND CONDITIONS EXIST CONCERN-
ING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL SUPPLY/MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM AND AGENCY FOR BROILER CHICKENS. THIS MAY EXPLAIN
WHY THERE HAS BEEN NO FOLLOW-UP BY GOC FOR A CONSULTATIVE
MEETING IN OTTAWA IN LATE MAY AS STATED AT APRIL 12
MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

A. WHEN CABINET APPROVAL WAS GIVEN MINAG WHELAN TO PRO-
CEED WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL BROILER PLAN, IT WAS
CONDITIONED ON CERTAIN REFORMS BEING MADE IN THE NATIONAL
FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING COUNCIL (NFPMC), WHICH IS THE
AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISING SUCH PROGRAMS. NFPMC
HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF EMBARRASSMENT TO AGRICULTURE CANADA.
THEY HAVE EAGERLY PROMOTED THE CREATION OF MORE NATIONAL
PROGRAMS AND HAVE DEFENDED EXISTING MARKETING AGENCIES IN
A MANNER THAT HAS RAISED SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT NFPMC'S
ABILITY TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION FOR WHICH IT IS
LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE.

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B. DELAY OF A NATIONAL ELECTION HAS REMOVED THE URGENCY
FOR MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE WHELAN TO MOVE AHEAD WITH
IMPLEMENTING THIS PLAN.

C. WHEN GOC IS SATISFIED WITH CHANGES IN NFPMC, MINAG IS
FREE TO IMPLEMENT THE PLAN AND AGENCY AS A DOMESTIC CANA-

DIAN AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM. WHILE GOC WILL BE PREPARED AT THAT TIME TO PLACE BROILER CHICKENS ON THE IMPORT CONTROL LIST, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTROLS THROUGH IMPORT QUOTAS AND LICENSES WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE MET:

(1) GOC HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS U.S. REACTION TO PROPOSED IMPORT QUOTA LEVEL (WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN PRESENTED TO USG).

(2) A COST OF PRODUCTION FORMULA IS DEVELOPED AND APPROVED. IN THE PAST THESE HAVE BEEN QUICKLY ADOPTED AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, HEAVY PRODUCER BIAS HAS BEEN REVEALED REQUIRING CHANGES.

(3) COMMENT: THE INTER-AGENCY CONDITIONS COULD MEAN THAT IMPORT CONTROLS ARE AT LEAST A YEAR AWAY. HOWEVER, SUCH INTERNAL GOC UNDERSTANDINGS HAVE A WAY OF SUDDENLY VANISHING. ENDERS

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